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TO: IMMEDIATE DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE//FOR INR, DIA WASHINGTON DC, DA WASHINGTON DC, CNO WASHINGTON DC, CMC WASHINGTON DC, CSAF WASHINGTON DC, TREASURY DEPT, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIST: 9 NOVEMBER 1994

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

SUBJ: COMMENTS OF THE GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON THE
BAMACA HUMAN RIGHTS CASE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] DISCUSSION ON THE BAMACA CASE [REDACTED]

DOI :

SOURCE :

TEXT: 1.

ADVISED A GATHERING
20 THAT HE HAD ATTENDED A MEETING [REDACTED] WHICH HAD FOCUSED ON
THE HUMAN RIGHTS CASE OF EFRAIN ((BAMACA)) VELASQUEZ, ALIAS

APR 1969 FOR RELEASE

Date June 1996

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[REDACTED]

"COMANDANTE EVERARDO" OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION OF PEOPLE IN ARMS (ORPA). [REDACTED] SAID THE MEETING WAS ADDRESSED BY GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER MARITZA ((RUIZ)) DE VIELMAN, WHO TOLD THE ASSEMBLED [REDACTED] THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAD SELECTED THE BAMACA CASE AS THE FOCUS OF AN EFFORT TO DISCREDIT THE GUATEMALAN ARMED FORCES AS AN INSTITUTION.

2. [REDACTED] SAID RUIZ DE VIELMAN TOLD THE ASSEMBLED [REDACTED] THAT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO GUATEMALA HAD BEEN ATTEMPTING TO EXCESSIVELY PRESSURE THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT ON THE BAMACA CASE AND HAD ATTEMPTED TO INTIMIDATE THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT INTO ACCEDING TO THE DEMANDS OF FOREIGNERS COMING TO GUATEMALA ASKING ABOUT THE BAMACA CASE. [REDACTED] ADDED THAT RUIZ DE VIELMAN PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED HER PERCEPTION THAT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TALKS WITH AND TREATS SENIOR GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN AN ABUSIVE MANNER. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: IT IS SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO ADDRESS A [REDACTED] THE PARTICIPATION OF SUCH AN OUTSPOKEN SENIOR OFFICIAL AS RUIZ DE VIELMAN SUGGESTS [REDACTED] HARDLINERS INTENDED TO WHIP UP SENTIMENTS AMONG THE ATTENDEES THAT [REDACTED] IS UNDER ATTACK.)

3. [REDACTED] THEN LED THE ASSEMBLED [REDACTED] IN A FREE-FORM DISCUSSION OF THE BAMACA CASE. HE INITIATED THE DISCUSSION BY ASSERTING THAT THE GUATEMALAN NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY UNION (URNG) HAS PROMPTED INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION TO THE BAMACA CASE AS A MEANS OF WEAKENING THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT AFTER THE URNG SUFFERED A SEVERE POLITICAL BLOW AS A RESULT OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A HUMAN RIGHTS TRUTH COMMISSION OR "COMMISSION OF THE PAST" DURING A MID-1994 PEACE NEGOTIATING SESSION IN OSLO, NORWAY. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE "COMMISSION OF THE PAST" IDENTIFIED BY [REDACTED] IS THE "COMMISSION OF HISTORICAL CLARIFICATION" SIGNED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE URNG ON 23 JUNE 1994. THE COMMISSION WILL NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO NAME HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS, AND IS GENERALLY SEEN BY NON-MILITARY OBSERVERS AS A VICTORY FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PEACE TALKS.) ONE OF [REDACTED] PRESENT SUGGESTED THAT THE BAMACA CASE WAS THE URNG'S EFFORT TO ATTACK THE GUATEMALAN ARMED FORCES MUCH THE SAME AS THE FARIBUNDO MARTI NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (FMLN) HAD DONE WITH THE JESUITS HUMAN RIGHTS CASE IN EL SALVADOR.

4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] ALSO SAID THE BAMACA CASE IS CLOSED AS FAR AS THE GOVERNMENT AND [REDACTED] ARE CONCERNED. ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION AMONG [REDACTED] FOCUSED ON QUESTIONS ALONG THE LINES OF HOW IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE UNITED STATES CAN ABANDON GUATEMALA IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST COMMUNIST INSURGENTS IN GUATEMALA. A GREAT DEAL OF UNDERLYING ANGER TOWARD THE U.S. WAS EVIDENT DURING THE MEETING. GUATEMALAN [REDACTED] FEEL THEY HAVE BEEN BETRAYED BY THE U.S.)

ACQ: GUATEMALA, GUATEMALA CITY (EARLY NOVEMBER 1994). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b)(3)

[REDACTED]